REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application is requested. Claims 1, 3, 4 and 6-8 are pending in the application. Of these, claims 6-8 have been allowed while claims 1, 3 and 4 have been rejected.

The examiner has noted an issue as to lack of clarity in claim 1 and suggests on page 3 of the Official Action appropriate wording. The examiner's helpful suggestions have been adopted and claim 1 has been amended accordingly. With claim 1 clarified, claims 3 and 4, which depend directly from claim 1, are allowable together with claim 1 (and allowed claims 6-8).

An Abstract of the Disclosure has been provided following the suggestions included in the current Official Action.

It is counsel's understanding that this submission will place all pending claims in condition for allowance. If this is not the case or further information/changes are required, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By:

Arthur R. Crawford Reg. No. 25,327

ARC:eaw 901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor Arlington, VA 22203-1808

Telephone: (703) 816-4000 Facsimile: (703) 816-4100